

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

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TAGS: AORG, EAID, NL, IN, PK, BG

SUBJ: INCREASE OF NETHERLANDS ASSISTANCE TO INDIA,
PAKISTAN AND BANGLADESH

1. NETHERLANDS MISSION PRESS RELEASE DATED MARCH 1
ANNOUNCED INCREASE IN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO INDIA,
PAKISTAN AND BANGLADESH BY ABOUT 20 PERCENT. TEXT
FOLLOWS:

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THE NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT TODAY HAS DECIDED TO INCREASE ITS FINANCIAL
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ASSISTANCE TO INDIA, PAKISTAN AND BANGLADESH BY ABOUT 20 PERCENT.

THE EXPECTED IMPACT OF RECENT INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS, AND IN
PARTICULAR OF THE INCREASE OF OIL PRICES, ON THE BALANCES OF PAYMENT
OF THE THREE COUNTRIES HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE DECISION.

THE HIGH PRIORITY GIVEN TO THE INCREASE OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO
INDIA, PAKISTAN AND BANGLADESH IS PROMPTED BY THE NETHERLANDS GOVERN-
MENT'S INTENTION TO BASE ITS DECISIONS ON AID AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE ON
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES' NEEDS. THE CRITERIA TO ASSESS THESE NEEDS, AS
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APPLIED BY THE NETHERLANDS, ARE: THE LEVEL OF PER CAPITA INCOME; THE

CONTENTS OF DEVELOPMENT PLANS; BALANCE OF PAYMENTS SITUATIONS; AND
AVAILABILITY OF FOREIGN CURRENCY FOR THE FINANCING OF DEVELOPMENT.

AS A RESULT OF THE DECISION, FINANCIAL 1974-ASSISTANCE TO INDIA WILL
BE INCREASED FROM 69 MILLION GUILDERS (APPROXIMATELY \$23 MILLION) TO
82 MILLION GUILDERS (APPROXIMATELY \$27.3 MILLION). ASSISTANCE TO
PAKISTAN AND BANGLADESH WILL BE INCREASED FROM 16 MILLION GUILDERS
(\$5.3 MILLION) TO 19 MILLION GUILDERS (6.3 MILLION) FOR EACH OF THE
TWO COUNTRIES, ALL ON SOFT CONDITIONS (30 YEAR; 2 1/2 PERCENT;
AND 8 YEAR GRACE PERIOD). UNQTE.
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